



North Carolina Law Life

Workers Comp Stakes Raised in NC

By: Donna Ray Berkelhammer. Thursday, April 19th, 2012

North Carolina law requires any business with three or more employees (including owners working in the business) to carry workers compensation insurance. Until recently, there wasn't much penalty to employers who scoffed at this law.

As documented in the **Raleigh News & Observer** today, the **NC Industrial Commission** (which implements the workers comp system) is bringing non-compliant business owners to court to pay for employee on-the-job injuries and setting up procedures to jail those who still do not or cannot pay.

We have always encouraged our business clients to carry workers comp insurance as soon as they have the first non-owner employee. Even if the company is not required to carry workers comp by **statute**, if an employee gets hurt on the job, the employer is responsible for those costs.

The cost of workers comp policies varies greatly by industry based on how dangerous the job is. It may not be as expensive as you think.

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